

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

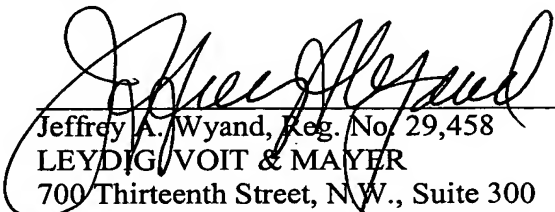
In response to the Office Action mailed March 22, 2006, Applicant requests continued examination.

In the previous Office Action, the Examiner pointed out some discrepancies in the Information Disclosure Statement. The Examiner asserted that two cited publications were not present in the file of the of the patent application. Although one of those publications is present, it is obscured by the presence of various translated parts of the patent application. There was a further error on the PTO-1449 Form. These errors are sincerely regretted and are corrected by the simultaneous submission, with this Amendment, of an additional Information Disclosure Statement citing four publications, including two of the publications referred to previously. Complete copies of those publications are supplied along with partial English language translations for two of the examined Japanese patent applications corresponding to cited unexamined Japanese patent applications. No English language abstracts or translations are available with respect to the basic publications. In addition, two newly cited publications are also supplied in the Information Disclosure Statement.

Claim 1 was objected to with regard to certain language in the preamble but claims 1-9 were stated to be allowable. All of the claims have been reviewed and have been modified as to form to make them easier to understand. The language objected to in claim 1, which also appeared in claims 8 and 9 without objection, is changed in all three claims.

In view of the previous concession of the allowability of claims 1-9, a Notice of Allowance should now be issued.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: May 16, 2006
JAW:ves